

U.S. Officials Only

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Poland

REPORT

SUBJECT Compulsory Military Training of University Students/
Specialized Military Training - Army Medical Corps/
Conscription of Doctors

DATE DISTR 22 Mar 1954

50X1-HUM

NO. OF PAGES 4

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPP. TO
REPORT NO.

OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793,
AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED, ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVE-
LATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS
PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS REPORT IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

Military Training of University Students

1. "According to the reports received [to Jan 54] by Polish military circles in emigration, a system of military training for Polish university students was generally adopted in 1953. Previously the system had been applied on an experimental basis. It now embraces the universities, academies, polytechnics, higher professional and marine schools.
2. "The system has a double purpose:
 - (a) To prevent interruption of university studies by the conscription of students to the army,
 - (b) To introduce a firmer discipline in studies and in the life of the students, through a degree of militarization of the higher educational bodies.
3. "At the beginning of the university year 1953-54 medical boards examined the students in all universities and specialized schools. The rejections were few. The students were enrolled in companies; every faculty of a school constituting a separate company. The companies are divided into sections (DRUZYNA), the sections into platoons which are the smallest training units.
4. "Military training takes one whole day weekly, from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.; in exceptional cases the students are kept longer. During university summer holidays all students are to undergo one month's military exercise and training, for which they are posted with regular army regiments. After finishing the period of their higher studies with this simultaneous military training, the students are to be enlisted in army regiments for three months. When this training is completed and appropriate examinations passed, they will receive the rank of Warrant Officer (CHORAZY). In future it will be possible to qualify for an officer's commission.

50X1-HUM

U.S. Officials Only

CONFIDENTIAL

DISTRIBUTION	STATE	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	FBI				
--------------	-------	------	------	-----	-----	--	--	--	--

This report is for the use within the USA of the Intelligence components of the Departments or Agencies indicated above. It is not to be transmitted overseas without the concurrence of the originating office through the Assistant Director of the Office of Collection and Dissemination, CIA.

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

- 2 -

50X1-HUM

5. "The organization of military training in universities is subordinate to superior officers, usually colonels, who are posted with every university and specialized school. This officer is the director of military training of the school; the university rector is the director of studies. Directors of military training are subordinate to the commanders of the various Military Districts (OKREG WOJSKOWY). At present there are six military districts in Poland.
6. "On their weekly day of military training, students undergo drill exercises, training in the use of arms, and attend theoretical lectures. All exercises and lectures are conducted by army officers subordinate to the school's military director. The officers are posted with the school for this purpose. The lectures concern: army weapons, tactics, topography, military chemistry, signals, action in the field, organization of the army, etc. The last-named subject and many others, e.g. army weapons, are considered secret. The students are forbidden to repeat the things they have learned or even to take their lecture notes from the lecture hall. In 1951-52 military lectures at universities were already treated as secret. It is reported that generally the university students are satisfied with this military course. They feel it will save them several years of compulsory army service afterwards. On the other hand, young men feel a little apprehensive at being subjected to military discipline during their university studies; this - they think - may lead to complete subordination to the regime.
7. "From two different sources we have received the following information about the military training which in some places was introduced earlier than 1953.
8. "A former pupil of the Marine School - TECHNIKUM MORSKIE NAWIGACYJNE - in Szczecin reports that military training was started there in 1952. It embraced at that time the top classes of the school, beginning with the 3rd class. He believes that this training was conducted according to the program of training of the marines (PIECHOTA MORSKA). The same training went on at MORSKIE TECHNIKUM MECHANICZNE in Gdynia. The military training (STUDIUM WOJSKOWE) was obligatory to all pupils. It was difficult to obtain an exemption, unless on the grounds of a medical certificate. The authorities assumed that all pupils of the Marine School should be in the best health and were prejudiced against exemptions on any grounds. The pupils were told that, after completing the Marine School, they would not undergo normal military service, only three months' of practical exercises. That was just being said. None of the classes had advanced far enough to learn from experience what would actually happen upon completion of their studies. They were afraid that, after losing a lot of time for military training at school, they would be conscripted to the army afterwards in spite of all promises. This caused incessant ferment in both Marine Schools, in Gdynia and Szczecin, and the school authorities never gave a fully satisfactory explanation. One had the impression that they did not know anything for certain themselves.
9. [redacted] the so-called Medical Military Training (LEKARSKIE PRZYSPOSOBIENIE WOJSKOWE) was in operation at the Medical Academies of Krakow and of Gdansk-Wrzeszcz in the university year 1951-52. [redacted] the purpose of military training in other university faculties was to prepare reserve officers for appropriate branches of the army service. It is a known fact that the Gdansk Polytechnic trains candidates to the posts of signals officers; the Warsaw Polytechnic trains officers of armored and motorised units. The program of Medical Military Training at the three Academies of Medicine known to this former student (Krakow, Wrzeszcz and Poznan) comprises the following subjects:
 - (a) Rudiments of military drill and army organization.
 - (b) Tactics, from the angle of the needs of the medical and sanitation service.
 - (c) Organization of the Army Medical Service.
 - (d) Military surgery.

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

- 3 -

50X1-HUM

10. "In Krakow the lectures were held in the Academy premises, at Kopernik Street; in Wrszcz, in one of the Academy buildings. The chief of Medical Military Training in Krakow was, in 1951-52, Major Dr (fnu) Ejmond. In 1952 Colonel Dr (fnu) Chodorowski was appointed a lecturer. At the beginning the training took two hours per week. During 1952 it was extended to four hours a week.
11. "In all higher schools with Medical Military Training, this subject is marked in the students' index books as an obligatory subject of study. Major Ejmond, in Krakow, signed the index books for every term of the year. Without the signatures for all terms, the student cannot obtain the confirming signature (WIZA) of the Dean of his faculty; and this in turn may cause difficulties in examinations, scholarship grants etc. (The scholarship for a student, during the first two years of medicine, amounts now to 260 zlotys, plus accommodation in the Students' Home. That must be paid out of the scholarship, but the rent is low. Nevertheless, the scholarships are not sufficient for the students' maintenance.)
12. "The Medical Academy in Krakow issues about 450-500 doctors' diplomas every year; the Medical Academy in Poznan - about 300 diplomas. The Academy in Wrszcz issued 422 diplomas in 1952. Diplomas are not granted immediately after the completion of studies and examinations, but after a practical period. [redacted] Harbor Medical Officer in Gdansk (there is a principle of sending people from South or Central Poland to the sea coast, and vice versa); [redacted] for a year before [redacted] medical diploma from the Medical Academy in Wrszcz [redacted]
13. "It should be added that there are cases when students of various higher schools, who have attended the Military Training at their schools, have been called anyway to ordinary military service. This may be motivated by political reasons, (the student's 'unreliability'). But it seems probable that there is yet no clear practice and the authorities solve each case on its own merits.
14. Specialised Military Training: Army Medical Corps
 "The training of Army Medical Corps is centralized in the former Faculty of Military Medicine, now CURIE SKLODOWSKA's Medical Academy, in Lublin. Regular army soldiers who are considered suitable candidates for medical studies may also be directed to the ordinary Medical Academies. They wear uniforms throughout the period of their studies and are subjected to strict army discipline. Before they obtain academy assignment they must sign a promise to remain in regular army service as military surgeons.
15. "Besides the normal syllabus of medical studies, the army medical students undergo additional schooling of military medicine, e.g.
 - (a) First aid and treatment of cases of chemical infection
 - (b) Hygiene in marching
 - (c) Evacuation of the sick and wounded in the field
 - (d) Field hygiene
 - (e) Sanitary and epidemic diagnosis in field conditions
 - (f) Rules of disinfection in field conditions.
16. "Army doctors receive average salaries of around 800 zlotys a month, which is not much. They may however be allowed to take additional jobs in the local health service centers, particularly hospitals. Under the existing shortage of doctors, this is even encouraged officially.
17. "A doctor may apply voluntarily for admission to the army service, but he is only accepted if his political reliability is thought certain. Then he passes through the board of the Military Regional Commission (WKR) and falls under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Defence.

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

- 4 -

18. "Doctors conscripted to the army or applying voluntarily undergo military training somewhere near Poznan. Afterwards they generally receive the rank of lieutenants. Before being permanently posted, they are asked to indicate choice of military unit and locality. As a rule, they receive assignments to different places.

Conscription of Doctors

19. "Apart from those doctors who enter the army more or less in accordance with their own wish, practically every civilian doctor may suddenly be called to the army for a shorter or longer period. In this respect the military authorities have a wide freedom.
20. "A medical student may be called to normal army service in the course of his studies. This possibility unsettles the students because they know that if they get their diplomas while in uniform it will be almost impossible for them to leave the army service.
21. "Doctors, whether working in the framework of the general Health Service or as private practitioners, may be called up for service with military hospitals or army units. Their term of service lasts usually three years or more; there is no rule. Private practitioners have the smallest chances of getting out of the army.
22. "A doctor may also be called up for a shorter period, e.g. for six months to work as a medical officer with the Sluzba Police youth brigades. Doctors whose political reliability is doubtful are more apt to be posted with Sluzba Police than with army units, lest they exert a bad influence on the soldiers. Young doctors may also be compulsorily directed to serve on small ships and travelers on the Baltic. Characteristically, regular army doctors are never allowed to work in sea harbors or on any ships of the merchant fleet, because the regime does not want to open any possibility of contacts between the army personnel and the sailors travelling abroad. They try to keep the army sealed off against all possible 'demoralising influence' from abroad."

- end -

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL/US OFFICIALS ONLY